## ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. I have received notices of the following motions for adjournment of the business of the House. From Mr. Sankaranarayanan Tampi:

"I move that the business of the House be adjourned to discuss a matter of urgent and public importance, viz., the political situation created in the country by the serving of a ban order on Mr. P. T. Punnoose, Secretary Communist Party, Travancore by Government."

STATEMENT.

Mr. P. T. Punnose was arrested and detained in custody under the Defence of Travancore Rules till 23rd July 1945 on which date he was released. He is now served with a ban prohibiting him from doing any political work. This amounts to curtailing the freedom of a citizen from doing lawful work."

I am ruling this motion out of order because it is not consistent with public interest. But in doing so, let me make it clear that it was as a matter of concession that Mr. P. T. Punnose was released. Government came to the conclusion that it was not necessary or expedient to keep him in jail and incur the expenditure involved in keeping him there. They also came to the conclusion that the speeches that he made were so inciting and so dangerous to public safety, that, for some time at least he should be prevented from indulging in such activities. Therefore the order has been served upon him. That is the point. I cannot allow a discussion on that matter because it is a matter entirely within the executive powers of Government, who are convinced that these precautions are necessary especially in view of the communist activities in regard to which this Government have very definite views.

The other adjournment motion is this. From Mr. P. S. Nataraja Pillai:

"I wish to make a motion for an adjournment of the business of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing a matter of public importance, viz., the failure of Government in not preparing and presenting the Audit and Appropriation Report for the years 1117, 1118 and 1119 to the Public Accounts Committee in time so as to enable the Committee to submit their report to this House and have it discussed in the House.

STATEMENT.

The Public Accounts Committee is a statutory body and under rule 13 of the Public Accounts Committee (Supplemental) Rules the recommendations of the Committee shall be embodied in a report which shall be laid before the Assembly. Rule 14 provides that the Assembly shall discuss the Report. This is a right granted to this House by the statute. Though this House elected members to Public Accounts Committee every year and Public Accounts Committees were constituted, Government did not prepare and present the Audit report in time and by this action a valuable right of this House has thus been deprived."

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I cannot say that this is not a matter of urgent public importance. But the question is whether the honourable member has leave of the House to move it.

MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: I object.

The question that the adjournment motion be moved was put to the House and carried.

PRESIDENT: The motion is in order and will be debated on at half past three today. It means a serious curtailment of the right of the members for general discussion. Honourable members if necessary could have raised this in the general discussion, but they have preferred to discuss it as an adjournment motion.

## DEWAN-PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT RE: DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET-

Under Rule 69, the debate on the Budget will begin with a general discussion and be followed by the voting on demands for grants. Two days have been allowed for the general discussion and the maximum of seven days has been set apart for the voting on demands for grants. The demands will be taken up in the order in which they are printed in the List of Demands, a copy of which has already been furnished to the honourable members. The Demand under III Public Works including Water Works and Drainage may be discussed for one whole day and not more than half a day will be allotted for each of the remaining demands.

Every member, other than the Financial Secretary, will be allowed during the general discussion stage, not more than *fifteen minutes* as usual. But I hope honourable members will, while not unduly restraining themselves, allow as many non-official members as possible to participate in the discussion and also render it possible to give the Government members adequate time for reply.

When voting on the demands for grants, every mover and the official member who has the right of reply will be allowed ten minutes each and the other members five minutes each. It will facilitate business if honourable members giving notice of token motions which can most conveniently be for a reduction of one rupee will also specify the purpose underlying the proposed cut and take care to see that the cut motions are confined to amounts entirely votable.

In this connection I may also invite the attention of honourable members to my predecessor's ruling regarding budget motions, given on the 30th of July 1935, reported on pages 705 to 707 of Volume VI of the Proceedings of the Sri Mulam Assembly *vide* pages 121 to 124 of the Rulings from the Chair.

For calculating the number of hours to be allotted for the voting of demands a day will be taken as from 12 noon to 6 p. m. One hour being available for question time, and another hour (2 to 3 p. m.) as lunch interval, the remaining four hours will be treated as one-full day and two hours as half a day. If the whole of the first hour is not

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